

*When was housing last at the top of the policy agenda?*

*Oswald Barnett's slum clearance campaign and the establishment of public housing.*

14

# THE CONGESTED AREAS OF OUR CITY

¶ Their dangers, and  
a suggested outline  
for their relief.

*The King* On a visit to the London slums with  
Tubby Clayton the Toc H Padre, ~~the Prince~~ *His Majesty*  
~~of Wales~~ exclaimed, "My God, Tubby!  
What can we do to end this?"

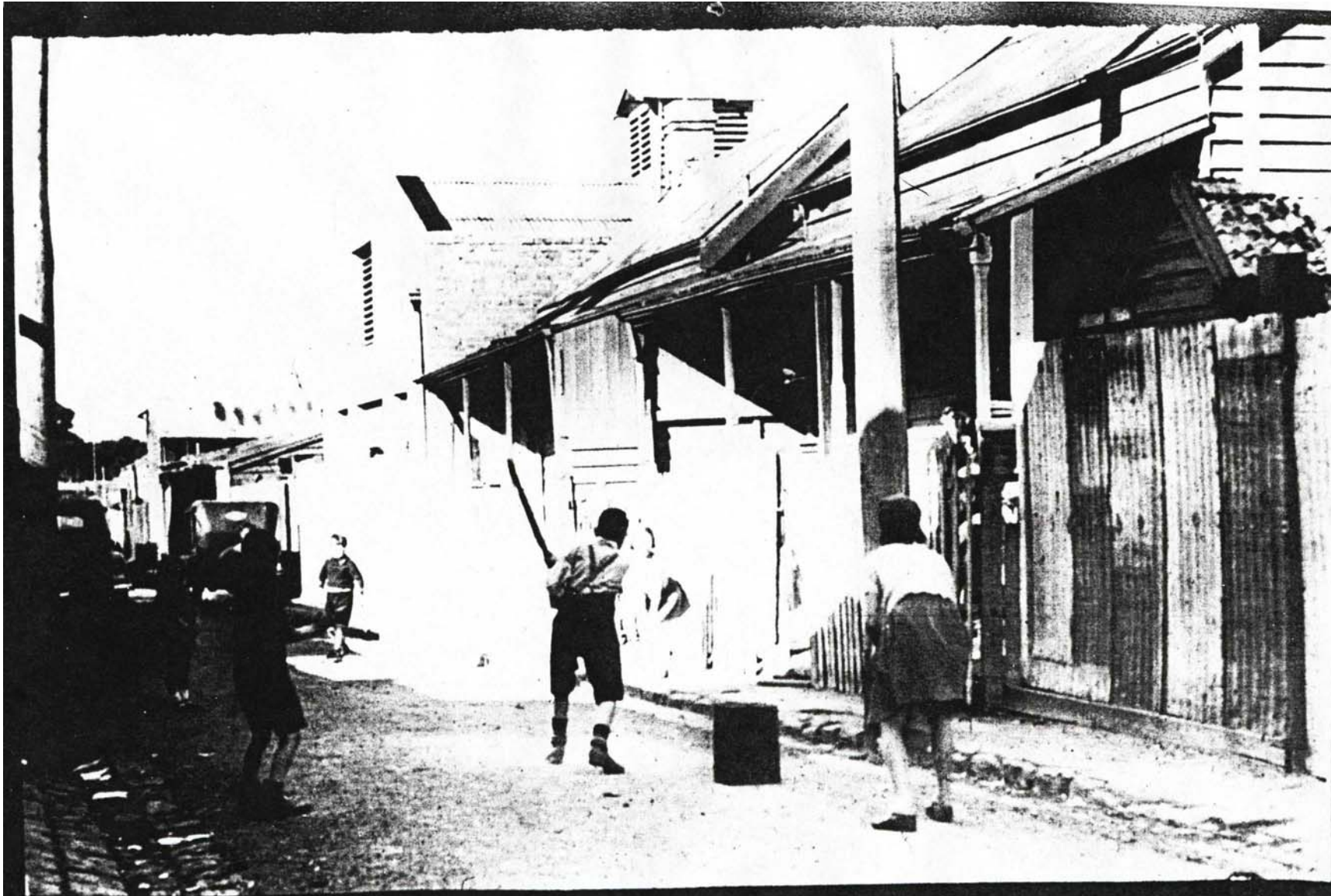
*the King only*  
Ever since His ~~Royal Highness~~ has been  
working on the question with marked results.

Extract from the letter of a leading Mel-  
bourne architect from London: "Our Mel-  
bourne slums are as bad as those here, but  
of course not so extensive."



BY R.M.

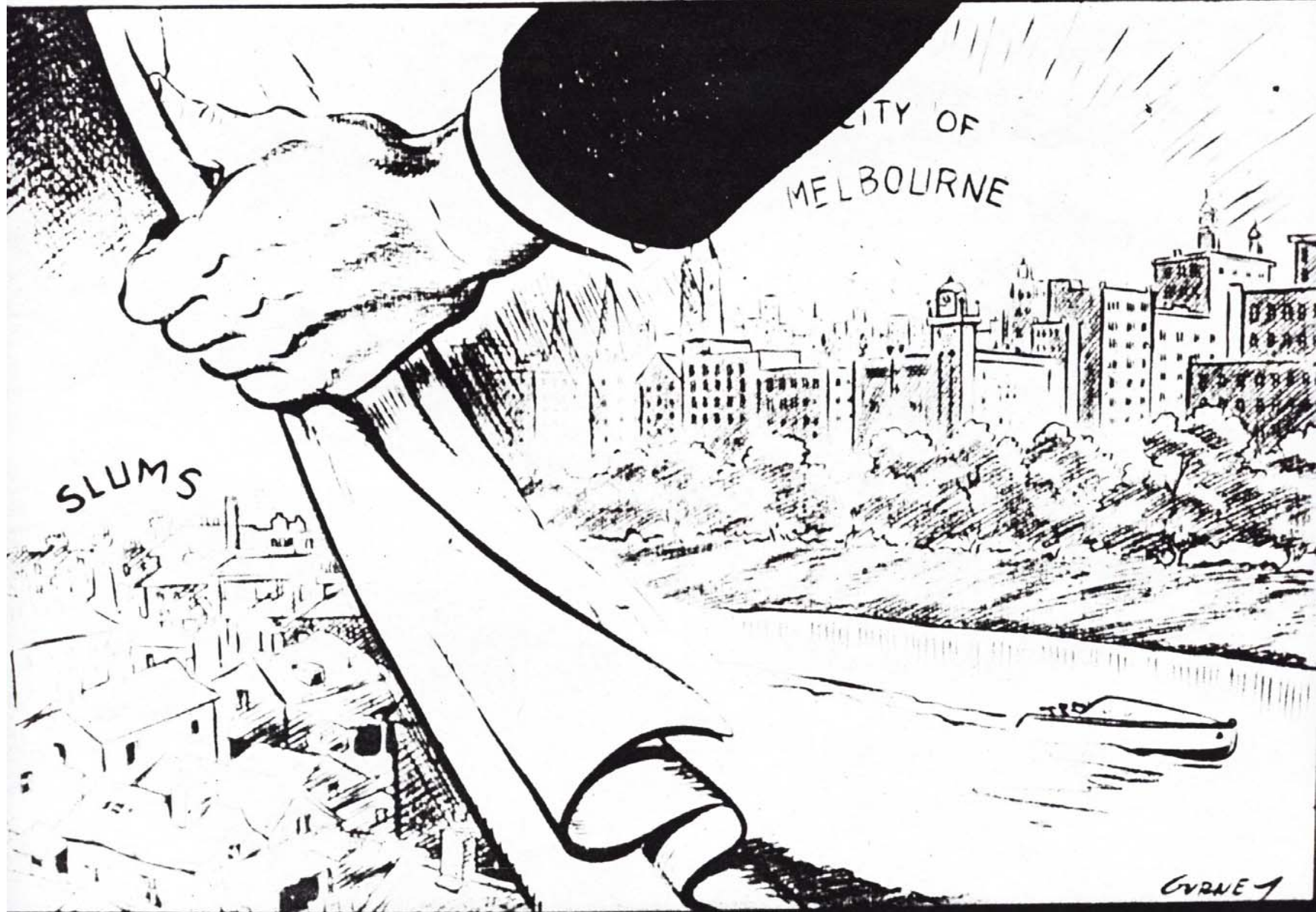




RICHMOND. THE CHILDREN'S  
PLAYGROUND

# BEHIND THE SCENES

BY COURTESY OF THE HERALD



*The*  
*Unsuspected*  
*Slums*

By F. Oswald Barnett  
M. Com.

An illustrated summary of a  
thesis submitted to the  
Melbourne University  
surveying the slum  
problem of  
Melbourne.

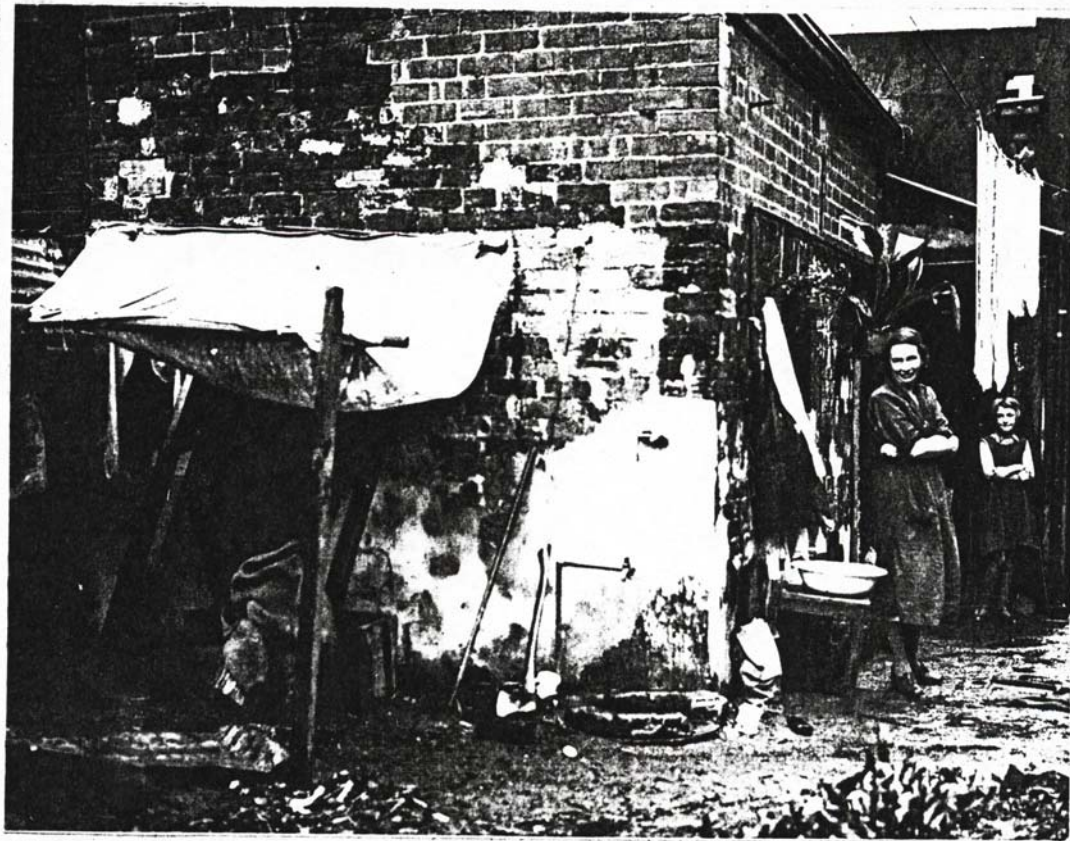


The Herald Press  
Melbourne

PRICE  
ONE  
SHILLING

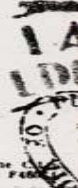


Carlton.  
Two Mothers living in house shown in  
photograph No. 9. Both were under  
the influence of liquor. The doctor  
with me, said that one baby had been  
very ill, and had recovered, but now  
would die owing to neglect.



Carlton.

Wash-house and bath-room 48 Palmerston Street. The only water laid on is the tap over the gully trap. The only washing convenience the hand basin on the box. The piece of canvas was erected for the purpose of keeping the wood dry.



## ZE CITY Attack On Slum Evil Launched

### THE WRECKER



urne's bright lights in Dodds Street, South of old electric signs had to be flattened or they could be sent to the tip.

## SUNDAY MORNIN

### NEW STYLE OF PHYSICAL TRAIN



## SPLIT IN LABOR

### "Head-Hunting" In N.S.W.

SYDNEY, Thursday. — "Head-hunting" against trades union leaders who attended the Labor Council "black" conference began in earnest at the Trades Hall today.

Union leaders who took a conspicuous part in the conference, which decided in favour of the overthrow of those in control of the A.L.P., executive and official newspaper, received notices today to show why the executive decision to expel those who participated in the conference should not be put into effect.

The notices were signed by the general secretary of the A.L.P., Mr J. J. Gray. The first union leaders to receive the notices were Messrs J. Kilburn, secretary of the Bricklayers' Union, and T. Boulton, secretary of the Redfern Builders' Union.

The threat to expel these union officials indicates how wide the split has developed, as they were the "federal" representatives of the State A.L.P., when the trades unions threw their weight behind Mr Lang on the occasion of the threat to his leadership some years ago by Mr Peter Laughlin and the Australian Workers' Union.

THE LATEST METHODS of physical training are embodied in the new course followed by Major T. Holt, who today instructed members of the Teachers' Training College in the movements. Some of the teachers are seen above. Below: Major Holt with a few of the 200 University High School pupils who demonstrated the movements.

## CHEAP POWER PI

### FOR N.S.W. FARM

The Herald Special Representative LONDON.

Plans for the establishment of a big

In an atmosphere of intense optimism, the first step in Australian history toward systematic slum clearance was taken today, when the Government committee of inquiry into metropolitan and country housing held its inaugural meeting.

The Premier (Mr Dixon) who presided, declared the Government's intention of grappling with the slum problem and the chairman of the committee, Mr P. M. C. predicted that the final report would be so forceful that it would compel action "from this or any other Government."

### Government's Lead

"Before this committee was appointed the Government had felt that the slum problem required comprehensive and coordinated action," said the Premier. Our interest has been shown by the allocation last year of £20,000,000 for slum clearance. This was intended as a lead to municipalities and to organizations concerned and has produced in the public mind a stronger realization of slum evils and the need for concerted remedial action. Thus the expenditure has been amply justified.

"Then came the appointment of the expert committee of investigation. Some people would have the Government launch out immediately on a huge programme of rebuilding. While we admire their motives, we realize that such a course is not practicable. No satisfactory concrete scheme could be put in hand because a vital pre-condition is not yet available. It is one of the general duties of the investigating committee to furnish the information to the Government.

### Basis for Attack

"The Government looks to you to tell us exactly where slum houses are, in the light of slum clearance. The location of slum properties, the names of their owners, and other relevant information without which there can be no basis for organized attack.

The Government also wants the committee to give it advice on planning of areas proposed to be condemned, on plans of suitable new dwellings and on transport and other allied questions.

An important phase is that of securing active municipal co-operation, because re-housing is essentially a problem for municipalities as well as the Government.

"The committee's recommendations must be framed with due regard to the financial capabilities of the State."

### Historic Occasion

Members of the committee emphasized the historic significance of the occasion. Mr P. M. C. described the inaugural meeting as the most important event of his life.

"This is the first and only genuine attempt yet made to do in a working basis of slum reconstruction," he said. Mr E. Oswald Barnett, a pioneer slum clearance expert, said the re-housing was one of the most urgent problems of the nation. Every social worker was delighted that the Government was so sympathetic.

Mr Marcus R. Barlow, architect and fellow workers' leader, said that he and his fellow workers knew only too well the urgent slum clearance was to the health of the nation. The committee would approach the task with courage and resolution.

## Be Striped

## She Wanted To Be A Warbird

Much as they dislike discouraging keenness, Royal Australian Air Force officials have had to reject one application without even an interview.

The would-be fighting pilot was young, enthusiastic, medically fit, and had already done some flying. Only one thing was wrong—the applicant was a girl.

She saw no reason, she said, why women should not defend

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VICTORIA

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Housing Investigation and Slum Abolition Board  
1936-1937

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# FIRST (PROGRESS) REPORT

with  
APPENDICES and SUPPLEMENTS

SLUM RECLAMATION:  
Housing for the Lower-Paid Worker

SHORT TERM PROGRAMME

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PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND.

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